and mortgage of vessel to a Foreign Company for purchase of vessels etc.

Cleaning of Visakhapatnam pert

2589. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY; Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that Visakhapatnam port is facing severe pollution problem with sulpher and iron dust content; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: (a) No Sir. There is no severe pollution ia Visakhapatnam Port.

(b) Does not arise.

Suspension of Punjab Roadways Employees

2590. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the large scale arbitrary suspension of employees in Punjab Roadways during the last two years ;

(b) if so, what is the number thereof and whether these suspension are made by such General Managers, who are themselves facing a number of corruption charges and have faced suspensions in the past; and

(c) the details of the such corrupt general managers and the steps Govern ment propose to take to avoid exploita tion and harassment of innocent lower staff consisting of drivers and conductors at the hands of such corrupt officers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Action against officers of Punjab roadways

2591. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a recruitment scandal was busted in Punjab Roadways, Moga in 1986 and Government had considered the case for departmental action against the offieers involved in the scandal;

(b) whether the matter was later dropped vide orders dated the 26th April, *1988* and the culprits instead of punishment were given promotions ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed in this regard ;

(d) whether the persons involved in the said recruitment scandal have now been found involved in a sensational diesel scandal at Punjab Roadways, office at Nangal; and

(e) if so, the action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

राष्ट्रीय जलमार्गों का विकास

2592. श्री ईश दत्त यादव : क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 1990–91 के दौरान पोत परिवहन के लिए राष्ट्रीय जलमार्गों को तीन खण्डों में विकसित किए जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में अब तक किए गए प्रयासों का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) इनके परिणामस्वरूप लोगों को कौन-कौन सी सुविधायें उपलब्ध होंगी ।

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जगदीश टाइटलर) : (क) और (ख) इस समय दो राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग हैं। वर्ष 1990-91 के दौरान राष्ट्रीय जल-मार्ग (गंगा-भागीरथी-हुगली के इलाहाबाद हल्दिया खंड) पर 1.5 मीटर गहरी और 45 मीटर चौड़ी सतत् नौचालन नहर सुलभ कराने के लिए हल्दिया और बलिया के बीच नाजुक स्थलों पर बन्डालिंग और निकर्षण कार्य किए गए । राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग (ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी के सैदिया-धुबरी खंड) पर 2.25 मीटर गहरी और 45 मीटर चौड़ी सतत नौचालन नहर सुलभ कराने के लिए धुबरी और कमारी के बीच नाजुक

स्थलों पर बन्डालिंग कार्य किए गए । दोनों जलमार्गों पर नौचालन नहरें दिन के नौचालन के लिए निर्दिष्ट की गई ।

4.90 करोड़ रुपए की अनुमानित लागत से पटना में एक सामान्य कार्गो वर्थ के निर्माण की एक स्कीम को सितम्बर, 1991 में मंजूरी दी गई है ।

(ग) राष्ट्रीय जलमार्गों पर सुलभ कराई गई नौचालन नहर और टर्मिनल सुविधाओं से कार्गो और यात्रियों के परिवहन के लिए नौवहन और नौचालन सुकर होगा ।

Centre's Non-payment for Mandovi Bridge

2593. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have discontinued to pay the. Goa Government on the matter of running ferry service at the site of collapsed Mandovi Bridge in Goa ;

(b) If so, since when and what are the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether it is the duty of Centre to maintain and run the works' between the National Highways ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Union Government have not discontinued payment to Goa Government, as regards running of ferry services at the site of collapsed Mandovi Bridge.

(c) Yes, Sir. It is the duty of Central Government to maintain and run ferry services on National Highways.

Widening of G. T. Karnal Road

2594. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANS-PORT be" pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to develop and widen G.T. Karnal -road between Murthal and Karnal on National Highway from one lane to 2 lanes and has assigned. the job of construction to any company ; . .

(b) if so, the details of the progress mads so far ; . ."

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) what was the number of road accidents on this section during 1990-91 and upto end of November, 1991; and

(e) the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Government to stop such accidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) :
(a) Yes, Sir. The work of widening the existing 2-Iane carriageway to 4-lanes in Murthal-Karnal Section of NH I was initially awarded to :—(i) M/s. NBCC for Section I; and (ii) M/s. Continental Construction/Balfour Beaty Joint Venture for Sections II to IV. Since then M/s NBCC have been expelled from Section I and the job has been re-bid. In Sections II to IV, M/s Continental Construction are now carrying out the work on their own on the basis of a supplementary agreement after breakup of the Joint Venture.

(b) The overall progress of work of construction upto September, 1991, as per reports received from State PWD, is 6.48% for Section I, 9.59% for Section II, 15.49% for Section III and 5.02% for Section IV.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) As ascertained by the State PWD from police authorities, 471 accidents took place in this secton during 1990-91 and 466 during 1991-92 upto end of November, 1991. Measures being taken to curb accidents on National Highways include improvement of road geometries, widening of the road carriage way, intersection modifications, provision of appropriate road signs markings, etc.

Entry of passengers from exit doors in DTC buses

2595. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that drivers and conductors in DTC buses are allowing passengers to enter from exit door causing enormous overcrowding at the exist doors and making it difficult for passengers to get down at their destinations;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take immediate steps to see that passengers (except old people and hsdi-capped persons) are barred entry into the buses from the exit doors and sav the travelling public from hardshipe and